

Message Text

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SUBJ: PRESS COVERAGE OF KURTOVIC SPEECH ON MEDIA ROLE: MEDIA
CHAREGES OF PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE CAMPAIGN

1. BELGRADE DAILY POLITIKA NOV 16 CARRIES REPORT OF INTRO-
DUCTORY SPEECH DELIVERED BY MEMBER OF LCY
EXECUTIVE BUREAU (EB), TODO KURTOVIC, AT NOV 15 BELGRADE MEETING
ON ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF MEDIA IN YUGOSLAV SOCIETY.
KURTOVIC, WHO HAS PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR IDEOLOGY WITHIN
EB, DENOUNCED "LIBERALISTIC ATTITUDES," WHICH HAVE FACILITATED
PENETRATION OF "ENEMY PROPAGANDA," AND IGNORED YUGOSLAV COM-
MITMENT TO NON-ALIGNED ROLE. MEDIA CANNOT MAINTAIN NEUTRAL
ATTITUDE IN CURRENT REFORMS LED BY LCY, ASSERTED KURTOVIC,
ON FOREIGN POLITICAL QUESTIONS, EB MEMBER ESTI-
MATED THAT YUGOSLAV MEDIA REPORTED MID-EAST CONFLICT "QUITE
WELL," BUT MUST REMAIN VIGILANT AND FIRMLY OPPOSE "THOSE
FORCES ABROAD" AND WITHIN COUNTRY WHO MALICIOUSLY CLAIM THAT
"WE HAVE ENGAGED OURSELVES IN LOST CAUSE." IT IS CLEAR,
CONTINUED KURTOVIC, THAT HERE IS INVOLVED "PRESSURE FROM
ABROAD ON YUGOSLAV POLICIES AND ON YUGOSLAVIA'S COURSE AS
WHOLE."

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2. POLITIKA REPORTS THAT ALSO ATTENDING AND PRESENTING PAPERS AT NOV 15 MEETING WERE: FEDERAL SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION, DRAGOLJUB BUDIMOVSKI; GENERAL-DIRECTOR PARTY ORGAN KOMUNIST, MILAN RAKAS; TANJUG GENERAL-DIRECTOR, PERO IVACIC; CHIEF EDITOR BORBA, NIKOLA BURZAN.

3. CURRENT ISSUE BELGRADE WEEKLY ILUSTROVANA POLITIKA, IN ARTICLE BY DUSAN SEKULIC, CHARGES CURRENT SPATE MALICIOUS RUMORS CONCERNING DOMESTIC OIL SHORTAGE, ECONOMIC INSTABILITY, AND YUGOSLAV ROLE IN MID-EAST IS PART OF "SECRET PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE" DIRECTED AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA BY FOREIGN ENEMIES. LATER IN TEXT, ARTICLE IDENTIFIED "AMERICAN AND THEIR ALLIES" AS GREATEST EXPERTS THIS TYPE WARFARE AND CITES STATISTICS RE USIA WORLD-WIDE STAFF AND RESOURCES. IDENTIFIES "SPECIAL YUGOSLAV SECTION RFE PROPAGANDA CENTER IN WEST BERLIN" AS "BRANCH OFFICE OF USIA" AND "MAIN OFFENDER" IN CAMPAIGN OF MALICIOUS RUMORS AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA AND NON-ALIGNED SUPPORTERS OF ARAB CAUSE.

4. ZAGREB WEEKLY VUS ALSO CITES "WHISPER CAMBPAIGN", BUT DOES NOT IMPLICATE USIA OR OTHER FOREIGN SOURCES.
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